

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6260

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 8322

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BR, US

SUBJECT: POLICY PLANNING CONSULTATIONS WITH BRAZIL

REF: STATE 192211, 223429, MOSCOW 16382

1. IN OUR OCT 29 MEETING, AT WHICH I DELIVERED THE SECRETARY'S LETTER, SILVEIRA SAID, IN RESPONSE TO MY PITCH, THAT:

A. THE NOV 21-22 DATES FOR THE CONSULTATIONS WERE ACCEPTABLE;

B. THE NATURE AND CONTENT OF THE TALKS AS I DESCRIBED THEM WERE SENSIBLE AND COMPATIBLE WITH HIS OWN IDEAS. HE AGREED THAT THE CONSULTATIONS COULD BE A USEFUL PRELUDE TO HIS TALKS WITH THE SECRETARY. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT DURING THE SECRETARY'S PROJECTED VISIT THEY WOULD DISCUSS THE STRUCTURE OF THE GENERAL US-BRAZILIAN CONSULTATIONS.

M. ONLY FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICERS WOULD PARTICIPATE ON THE BRAZILIAN SIDE FOR THIS FIRST ROUND BUT PARTICIPATION BY OTHER AGENCIES WOULD BE POSSIBLE IN SUBSEQUENT ROUNDS.

D. HE WOULD LEAD OFF THE DISCUSSIONS WITH AN OVERVIEW STATEMENT OF THE BRAZILIAN APPRECIATION OF THE EVOLVING INTERNATIONAL SCENE AND OF THE BRAZILIAN FOREIGN POLICY APPROACH TO IT. HE CONSIDERED HIS INITIAL PARTICIPATION IMPORTANT, PARTICULARLY AS "GUIDANCE", FOR HIS PEOPLE.

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HE WANTED ME TO BE PRESENT FOR THIS SESSION.

E. HE WAS PARTICULARLY STRUCK AND PLEASED BY THE SUGGESTED INCLUSION OF PORTUGAL AND AFRICA IN THE AGENDA. HE ADDED THAT HE HAD GAINED THE IMPRESSION IN WASHINGTON THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PORTUGUESE SITUATION WAS CAPTURING MORE USG ATTENTION THAN THE CUBAN QUESTION.

2. WHEN I TOLD SILVEIRA THAT THE POLICY PLANNING GROUPS WOULD BE VISITING OTHER COUNTRIES, HE APPEARED MOMENTARILY DISAPPOINTED BUT HE RECOVERED QUICKLY.

3. WE AGREED THAT MY POLITICAL COUNSELOR WOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH MINISTER HOLANDA CAVALCANTI (WHO SAT IN ON MOST OF OUR MEETING AND WHO IS SILVEIRA'S SUB-CHIEF OF CABINET, POLICY ADVISER AND CLOSET THING TO A POLICY PLANNER AS WE UNDERSTAND THE TERM) TO BEGIN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CONSULTATIONS.

4. IN AN OCT 31 MEETING WITH THE POL COUNSELOR, HOLANDA CAVALCANTI SAID THAT, SINCE THE MINISTRY HAD NO POLICY PLANNING STAFF PER SE, THE BRAZILIAN REPRESENTATION WOULD BE AD HOC, THAT IS, WHILE THERE WOULD BE SOME CONTINUOUS REPRESENTATION (AND HE, HIMSELF, WOULD ATTEND ALL SESSIONS, OTHER MINISTRY PARTICIPANTS FROM VARIOUS GEOGRAPHICAL AND FUNCTIONAL DEPARTMENTS WOULD BE IN AND OUT AS THE AGENDA ITEM WARRANTED. HE SUGGESTED, THEREFORE, THAT, PERHAPS AFTER THE OPENING SESSION LAYING OUT THE BROAD PANORAMA, THE TOPICS BE GROUPED AND SCHEDULED SO THAT THE BRAZILIAN SIDE WOULD KNOW WHICH TEAM TO FIELD. IN RESPONSE TO TENTATIVE AGENDA ITEMS CITED BY THE POL COUNSELOR (DRAWN FROM MOSCOW 16382, STATE 223429 AND BRASILIA 6769), HOLANDA CAVALCANTI HAD NO ADDITIONS TO SUGGEST BUT SAID THEY WOULD BE WORKING ON THE AGENDA QUESTION OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

5. IT WOULD BE TIMELY TO HAVE ANY FURTHER WASHINGTON IDEAS ON THE AGENDA.
CRIMMINS

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